MUNICIPAL POLICE,

OR

DAY AND NIGHT WATCH,

OF THE

City of New-York.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

PRESCRIBED BY THE MAYOR.

Mayor's Office, November 27, 1844

THE principal object to be attained, is the *prevention of crime,* and to this end every effort of the Police is to be directed.

Officers and Policemen should endeavor to distinguish themselves by such activity and vigilance as may render it almost impossible for any one to commit a crime. The absence of crime will be considered the surest evidence of the complete efficiency of the Police.

STATIONS.

I. The following Station-Houses being prescribed by the Ordinance, will be assigned to the proportion of the Municipal Police following:

No. 1. In Franklin Market, one Captain, one Assistant Captain, two Sergeants, with men.

No. 2. In the City Hall, two Captains, one Assistant Captain, two Sergeants, with men.

No. 3. In the Halls of Justice, one Captain, one Assistant Captain, two Sergeants, with men.

No. 4. In Essex Market, one Captain, one Assistant Captain, two Sergeants, with men.

No. 5. In Watch-House corner of Prince and Wooster streets, one Captain, one Assistant Captain, two Sergeants, with men.

No. 6. In Jefferson Market, one Captain, one Assistant Captain, two Sergeants, with men.

No. 7. In Union Market, one Captain, one Assistant Captain, two Sergeants, with men.

No. 8. In House of Detention, Harlem, one Assistant Captain, two Sergeants, with men. (The rules will be here observed as far as practicable.)

II. One-half of this force shall be on duty during the day, and the other half during the night; and such arrangements shall be made by the Superintendent, that the said force shall *patrol* the whole City during the day and night, each Policeman being assigned to a separate beat.

III. The force which is not on duty shall rest at or near the *Station*, subject to be called upon, at any moment, in case of emergency *only*.

IV. The Policemen, after being relieved, shall traverse different streets from those passed over by the relief men, on their way to the Station.

V. Each man shall devote his whole time to the Police service, and shall at all times appear in his Police dress.

VI. If any man be removed from office, the whole of his pay then due or unpaid, is forfeited.

VII. The general duties enjoined by Sections 8 and 9 of Article I. of the Ordinance establishing this force, shall be strictly observed.

VIII. Future regulations will be prescribed from time to time.

EXTERIOR DUTIES.

The Superintendent will direct the time at which the day and night duty will severally commence, and the duration of each tour of duty, keeping a reserve at each Station to supply absences.

No man shall leave his beat until the relief has arrived at the beat, nor enter any house, except in discharge of his duty.

The Sergeants shall have the duty of seeing the men properly assigned to their beats, and properly relieved, and shall report any neglect or misconduct of any of the men to the Captain.

Each Captain, under the direction of the Superintendent, shall assign his men to particular beats in his district, so that each beat shall be in a *straight line*, as far as may be, and the same line successively patrolled by several men, with directions to observe *half* the blocks of the intersecting streets.

The Policemen shall arrest any person violating the law by committing a felony or misdemeanor, or causing a disturbance of peace and good order.

If wanting assistance, he is authorized to demand it of the standers-by, or to rap on the pavement, or to give such other signal as may be prescribed, when all Policemen, of any class or description, and Watchmen, and Marshals, within hearing, are enjoined to hasten to his assistance.

All prisoners, when arrested, shall be conveyed to the nearest Station-House, and confined until examined by a magistrate, and either committed or discharged, on bail or otherwise, according to law.

If deemed proper by the Captain or Assistant Captain in command, the prisoner may be sent forthwith to either of the Police-Offices, with the Policeman who made the arrest, to give the requisite testimony.

The Policeman, when on duty, must exhibit a perfect command of *temper*, unmoved by any language or threats that may be used. This course will induce the by-standers to assist him if necessary. He must not *converse*, unless required to answer a question or to give directions to strangers, and his whole attention must be given to his duty.

The least departure from *strict* temperance will be visited by dismission, also, any incivility or insolence to citizens.

The prisoners in confinement under the charge of the Police, shall be visited by an officer sent by the Captain or Assistant Captain once every hour, to ascertain whether medical or other assistance is necessary.

DRESS.

The Superintendent shall have no distinguishing dress.

The Captains shall dress in citizen's dress, composed of blue frock-coat, with covered buttons, and dark vest, and blue pantaloons; but shall have the letter C. embroidered in gold on a standing coat-collar, so made as to be turned down when necessary.

The Assistant Captains, the same dress, with the letters A. C. on a similar collar.

The Sergeants, the same dress, with the letter S. in woollen embroidery.

The Policemen, the same dress, with the letters M. P. in woollen embroidery, and their numbers added.

The whole force shall have overcoats in winter, and India-rubber or water-proof cloth capes for stormy weather, similarly marked on the collars or shoulders.

All the force shall carry a baton or staff.

INTERIOR DUTY.

Each Policeman, as soon as his tour of duty is over, will report to the Captain or Assistant Captain in command, who shall enter in his register the name of the man, the date and substance of the report, if deemed important.

In particular, any suspicious house, or persons, or conduct, shall be specially reported and entered, and the substance immediately communicated to the men who succeed to the beat of the one so making the report.

All robberies shall be communicated to the whole force, so that all may unite in the discovery of the offender and recovery of the property.

The Captain or Assistant Captain shall visit every beat as often as practicable, and at least once each night, and three times each day.

Each man's name will be entered on the register, and opposite thereto will be the number of their respective beats ; and a card will be furnished each man, with his name and the number of the beat written upon it.

The Assistant Captains shall aid the Captains in their duties, and perform the duty of Captain when the Captain is absent.

The Sergeants shall inspect the men, and see them on their beats, and constantly visit them when on duty, and report all neglect or violations of duty.